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## HEADQUARTERS

2d Battalion 26th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
FPO, San Francisco 96602

83367

5750  
3/DEP/dep

10 January 1967

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division  
Commanding General, III Marine Amphibious Force  
Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 December 1966 to 31 December 1966.

Ref: (a) MC0 5750.2  
(b) FMFPACO 5750.8  
(c) DivO 5750.1A

Encl: ✓(1) 2d Battalion, 26th Marine's Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of references (a), (b) and (c), enclosure (1) is submitted.
2. Downgraded at three (3) year intervals; declassified after twelve (12) years.

J.M. CUMMINGS

2nd BN/26 TH/1967

CMD CHRON

DEC 1966

RECORDED  
SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
SERIALIZED  
FILED

**UNCLASSIFIED**

HEADQUARTERS  
2d Battalion 26th Marines  
3d Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
FPO, San Francisco, 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY  
1Dec66 to 31Dec66

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ENCLOSURE

Enclosure (1)

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## PART I

ORGANIZATION DATA SHEET

1. Reporting Unit 2d Battalion, 26th Marines, 2d Marine Division (Rein) FMF.
2. Period Covered by Report 1-31 December, 1966
3. Date of Submission of Report 9 January, 1967
4. Commanding Officer LtCol J. M. CUMMINGS.
5. Location of Command Post at End of Period  
Coordinates YD 505345
6. Name: VIETNAM 1:50,000 AMS Series I704, Sheets 6559 T, 6550 T and 6659 IV and series I 7014, sheets 6442 TT and 6441 T.

7. Staff Assignments

Executive Officer	1-31 Dec 1966	Major W. S. PILLAR, JR.
S-1	1-31 Dec 1966	2dLt J. L. RHODES
S-2	1- 9 Dec 1966	Captain A. B. CROSBY
	12-16 Dec 1966	None Assigned
	17-31 Dec 1966	Captain R. C. MOTLEY
S-3	1-31 Dec 1966	Major W. E. FOGG
S-4	1-31 Dec 1966	Captain J. J. ROZMAN

8. Subordinate Unit Commanders

H&S Co	1-10 Dec 1966	Capt. P. MORIGEAU, JR.
	11-31 Dec 1966	Capt. W. A. BARRY, JR.
Co "E"	1-31 Dec 1966	Capt. J. R. JOY
Co "F"	1-31 Dec 1966	Capt. J. A. LINNEMANN
Co "G"	1- 4 Dec 1966	Capt. A. P. SGAMBELLURI
	5-31 Dec 1966	Capt. S. E. OTTS
Co "H"	1-31 Dec 1966	Capt. W. E. SYKES, JR.

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## PART II

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## NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Second Battalion, Twenty-Sixth Marines participated in two major operations during the month of December. Operation Pawnee III, continuing since 29 October, remained in effect until 24 December 1966, when the Battalion came under operational control of the Fourth Marine Regiment to participate in Operation Chinook.

Both operations were of a search and destroy nature. However, operation Pawnee III had the additional mission of providing security for the LOC's within the area of operation. This additional mission became of primary importance during December when it became obvious that local Popular and Regional Forces were inadequate for providing security for the many road and rail bridges throughout the area. As a result, the Battalion forces were deployed as security to widely separated bridges. This restricted the offensive capability for the remainder of Operation Pawnee III.

The Battalion operated throughout the month of December with only three rifle companies. Nevertheless, extensive patrolling was accomplished throughout the area of operation.

Since undertaking Operation Chinook, the Battalion has been operating in an offensive capacity in conjunction with the Third Battalion, Twenty-Sixth Marines under the control of the Fourth Marines. Company and platoon sized units have conducted heavy patrolling and set numerous ambushes. Operations of larger than company level have been severely limited by inclement weather.

Weather proved to be the most decisive factor affecting the Battalion during the month of December. Monsoonal rains flooded lowlands, thereby hindering patrol activity and channelized movement. Air support was severely restricted; fixed wing close air support was impossible and helicopter support, both resupply and medevac, could many times operate on only an emergency basis. The health and comfort of the Marines operating in the field was a constant problem. Immersion foot and similar incapacitators produced many more Marine casualties than did enemy fire. Finally, the persistent adverse weather conditions made itself felt at the tactical planning level. Troop movements by air, rapid overland deployment, and logistical reinforcement by helicopter could rarely be counted on.

Morale and the combat efficiency of the Battalion's Marines remain high. Equipment has shown considerable wear, largely as a result of weather. Replenishment of many combat-essential items of equipment has been less than satisfactory.

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## INTELLIGENCE (S-2)

1. Significant Events. There were no significant enemy events during the period.

2. New Developments. No new enemy developments were noted during the period.

3. Problem areas. A shortage of interpreters continues to be a major problem.

4. Weather. The maximum high temperature recorded during the period was 86 degrees. The minimum low recorded was 62 degrees. Weather during the period had adverse effects on operations. Patrol routes were channelized to high ground, ambush sites were changed and air operations were limited due to monsoon conditions.

5. Intelligence Summary.

a. There was a total of 22 VC initiated incidents during the period consisting of:

- (1) 3 Mining/Booby Trap incidents
- (2) 18 Small arms incidents including 1 57mm recoilless incident
- (3) 1 Incident of grenades being thrown

b. There was an increase in VC initiated incidents compared with November (15 Nov/22 Dec).

6. Daily Intelligence Summaries. Reference 3d Marine Division Intelligence Summaries from 302400H Nov to 312400H Dec 66.

7. Special Intelligence Reports. None.

8. Captive Report.

- a. 1 VCC apprehended during the period
- b. 1 VCS apprehended during the period and sent to ITT or District Headquarters.

9. Enemy Casualties.

- a. VC KIA (conf) 6
- b. VC KIA (prob) 0
- c. VC WIA (conf) 10
- d. VC WIA (prob) 0

10. Captured Supplies and Equipment. 14,100 lbs rice, 253 x 30 cal. rds, 7 x Chicom 57mm rr rds, 6 x Chicom 60mm mortar rds, 1 x US M2 carbine, 1 x French MAS-36 rifle, 1 x Chicom 7.62mm rifle, 5 x Chicom gren, 7 x belts 30 cal, 60 x M1 Carbine clips, 102 x M1 Carbine rds, 1 x mine Chicom anti-personnel, 2 x mines US anti-personnel.

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3. Discipline, Courts-Martial, Office Hours

	<u>Pending</u>	<u>Completed</u>
a. Special Courts-Martial	4	0
b. Summary Courts-Martial	0	0
c. Battalion Commander (H.)	0	2
d. Company Commander (H.)	0	0
e. There were no General Courts-Martial during the period covered.		

4. Morale is considered to be excellent.

5. Liberty was not authorized during the reporting period.

6. Staff Studies and Estimates. None

7. Local Newspapers. None

8. No journal is maintained. A chronological record is maintained of all messages received in this command.

9. Photographs. None

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## COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS CHRONOLOGY

1. Significant Events. Secured from Operation Pawnee III and displaced to Operation Chinook.
2. New Developments. Ran a test on vehicular mounted AN/PRC-47.
3. Problem areas. Handset problem on H-138 still exists. Have had AN/TGC-114 in FLSU for more than a month which has hampered teletype operation. Have had two (2) AN/TGC-114 on order which were to have been available for issue but not yet received. Batteries BA-414 on order. None in stock.
4. Other Contributions. Established reliable communications with KY-8 after solving initial problems with assistance from 4th Marines Regiment. Radio relay in support of operation Pawnee III continued outstanding in spite of numerous generator problems.
5. Status of Equipment.
  - a. Overall status is good
  - b. Percentage of combat essential equipment available exceeds 90%.
6. Inoperative and Unservicable Gear.

a. AN/PRC-25	Radio	1
b. AN/MRC-109	Radio Jeep	1
c. PU-482	Generator	1
d. PU-422	Generator	2
e. AN/GRA-39	Remotes	3
f. AN/URM-105	Multimeter	1
g. AN/MRC-87	Radio Jeep	1
#h. AN/GRA-6	Remotes	8

#Deadlines because of BA-414
7. Security Violations.
  - a. None
  - b. There were 312 incoming and 105 outgoing messages through 31 December 1966.
8. Personnel Shortages.
  - a. 2531 - 6
9. Operational Training Conducted
  - a. Personnel continued to work in primary MOS's supporting operating commitments. Cross training is conducted on a continuing basis.
10. Summary of Operations. Maintained communications in support of Operation Pawnee III. Displaced by echelon maintaining continual communications to Chinook area. Continued to maintain a rear Command Post.
11. Equipment and Personnel Located in Areas Other Than Phu Bai TAOR.  
None.

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11. Destroyed VC Defences/Positions. 11 x foxholes, 25 x punji pits,  
7 x spider holes.

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## TRAINING

1. Objective. To maintain and improve the high state of combat efficiency of the Battalion training was conducted on a formal school and individual basis.
2. Highlights. Instructor training was provided for 16 Marines from the Battalion by the 3d Marine Division G-3 training section to qualify them to instruct the remainder of the Battalion on the M-16 and XM-16E1 rifles. Two enlisted Marines attended the generator operators course conducted by the 3d Engineer Battalion. One Air Officer was sent to Japan to acquire flight time. Motor Vehicle Operators school was conducted at Motor Transport Section, H&S Company. Familiarization firing of individual and crew served weapons was conducted by all companies.

## SPECIAL OPERATIONS

1. Amphibious Operations. None

2. Combined Operations. None

3. Psychological Operations. During the period distribution of psychological material was conducted in seven (7) hamlets within the Gavnee III TACR. The target areas were the hamlets of CAU HAI (ZD094006), THON PHUOC (ZD118021), NUOC NGOT (ZD149011), THON THUY TIU (ZF194011), CA THUA LUU (ZD198011), THON THO SAN (AU812016) and THON PHU GIA (AU825010).

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S E C R E T  
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TYPES OF WARFARE

1. Use of equipment peculiar to CBR: None
2. Training accomplished: None
3. Status of CBR equipment on hand: All major items of equipment are on hand.

S E C R E T  
COMMAND AND CONTROL

1. The troop list as of 31 December 1966 is as follows:

	USMC	USN		
	OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
2d Battalion, 26th Marines	32	1145	4	54
H&S Company	14	301	4	54
Company "E"	5	210		
Company "F"	4	213		
Company "G"	5	211		
Company "H"	4	210		

S E C R E T  
1. Command Post Locations.

2d Battalion, 26th Marines	YD505345
H&S Company	YD505345
Company "E"	YD503350
Company "F"	YD508342
Company "G"	OPCON to 2d Battalion, 9th Marines
Company "H"	YD502341

3. The primary means of control within the 2d Battalion, 26th Marines was radio.

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CLOSE COMBAT1. Close Combata. Operations Conducted

- (1) Operations
  - (a) Platoon - None
  - (b) Company - None
  - (c) Battalion - two
  - (d) Combined - None

b. Significant Events

## 1 December

(1) One platoon from Company E and one platoon from Company H plus the FAC and FO provided security for Rough Rider from DA NANG to DONG HA.

(2) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations and night ambushes in operation Pawnee III. Significant incidents are noted below.

010735H PHU LOC District Headquarters reported that bridge at ZD148010 was 85% destroyed by VC.

011330H During a Battalion sweep Company G apprehended 6 VCS and ARVN recon apprehended 2 VCS at ZC152998. Company H apprehended one VCS at ZC145996. All VCS's were interrogated by CI team and taken to PHU LOC District Headquarters.

011830H A Battalion OP observed three VC at ZD119003. 81mm fire mission called. Area to be checked at first light.

## 2 December

(1) One platoon from Company E and one platoon from Company H plus the FAC and FO provided security for Rough Rider from DA NANG to DONG HA.

(2) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations in operation Pawnee III. There were no significant incidents in this noted period.

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(1) One plt. from company F and one plt. from company H plus FAC and FO provided security for Rough Rider from DA NANG to HONG HA

(2) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations and night ambushes in operation Pawnee III. Significant incidents are noted below.

031410H Company H received heavy SAF and 12 rounds of recoilless rifle fire. 81mm mortar and 106 recoilless rifle fire returned. Enemy retreated upon receiving fire. Company H received 7 WIA.

032125H APVN company(-) on bridge at ZD153010 received SAF from unknown number of VC. Fire returned and VC retreated.

4 December

(1) One plt. from company E and one plt. from company H plus FAC and FO provided security for rough rider from DA NANG to DONG HA.

(2) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations and night ambushes in operation Pawnee III. Significant incidents are noted below.

041415H Company H apprehended two VCS for suspicious action at ZD058023. WIA's were taken to District Headquarters.

042100H Company H saw lights at ZD058018. Artillery mission called, good target coverage. Illumination called in and figures were observed and taken under fire with SA and 106 recoilless rifle fire. Area will be checked at first light.

5 December

(1) One plt. from company E and one plt. from company H plus FAC and FO provided security for rough rider from DA NANG to DONG HA

(2) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations and night ambushes in operation Pawnee III. Significant incidents are noted below.

050045H Company H ambush engaged 3 VC with SAF at ZD060020. VC fled north of highway #1 and toward PHU LOC.

052030H Company G observed flashing lights at ZC160985 and what appeared to be answering flashing light from village. Art. mission was called and the light went out.

6 December

(1) One plt. from company E and one plt. from company H plus FAC and FO provided security for rough rider from DA NANG to DONG HA.

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All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations and night ambushes in operation Pawnee III. Significant incidents are noted below.

061435H At ZC097984. Recon found 11 fighting holes. Five were 5x3x3x and the remaining six were 2x2x4. These holes appeared to be 30 days old.

061750H Company G made contact with six VC at ZC148981, resulting in one VC WIA.

7 December

(1) One plt. from Company E and one plt. from Company H plus FAC and FUs provided security for rough rider from DA NVNG to DONG HA.

(2) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations and night ambushes in Operation Pawnee III. Significant incidents are noted below.

071545H Company H observed two bursts of SAF from ZD054018. Fired two rounds of 106mm recoilless rifle. Sending a patrol to check area.

072050H OP observed lights at ZC107992 and lights at ZC104997 heading northwest. Arty. mission called and lights went out. Illumination fired with neg. sightline.

8 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations and night ambushes in Operation Pawnee III. Significant incidents are noted below.

080010H Battery "B", OP reported explosion near their position at ZD112009. Believed to be a hand grenade thrown by VC. Area illuminated with neg. sightline.

081000H Company G made contact with two VC at ZC119963. Resulting in one VC KIA and one VC WIA.

081015H Four VC made contact with Company G blocking force at ZC138966. VC broke contact and fled South.

081015H Company G observed 4 VC at ZC141972. Fired SA and M-79 resulting in one VC KIA and one captured rifle.

081055H Company H apprehended one VCS. VCS taken to District Headquarters. VCS was captured at ZD077014 with no ID card.

081200H Company G encountered 7 VC on ridge line at ZC119954, fired SAF killing one VC. The remaining VC fled east. Arty. mission called with neg. results.

081248H Company G received SAF from ZC117949 resulting in 2 USMC WIA. Fire mission called, search area with neg. results.

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(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations and night ambushes in Operation Pawnee III. Significant incidents are noted below.

090815H Company H found approx. 1,500 lbs of rice at Z0096996 in house. Rice was turned over to District Chief.

090830H Company H found 16 punji pits at ZC093989 and picked up two VCS in area. Pits destroyed and VCS's were taken to District Headquateres.

092055H Battalion OP observed 5 lights at ZC112001. Arty. mission called and lights extinguished.

092205H Battalion OP observed 17 lights at ZC112001 moving north. Arty. mission called. Lights extinguished.

#### 12 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations and night ambushes in Operation Pawnee III. One significant incident is noted below.

100300H District Headquarters reported that bridge at ZD099066 was destroyed.

(2) At 101300H this Headquarters assumed OPCON F/2/26 (Rein) and chopped B/2/26 (Rein) to First Bn. Fourth Marines.

#### 13 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations and night ambushes in operation Pawnee III. Significant incidents are noted below.

110810H Company H found ass't'd small arm rounds in house at ZD087999. The names of the two women living in house were taken and ID cards checked. All small arm rounds taken to company H CP and destroyed.

110830H Company H found 3,000 lbs of rice in house at ZD087000. Rice delivered to District Headquarters who turned it over to Village Chief.

111445H Company H squad patrol apprehended two male Vietnamese (20-25 yr) working as woodcutters. Turned over to district headquarters who said that they were Arty deserters.

(2) At 111'00H the Battalion provided security for bridges at AT887956, ZD198010, ZD153010, ZD099007, ZD087007 and ZD038206.

#### 14 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. Significant incidents are noted.

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330300H Company H reported four explosions at approx. ZD075006. Will investigate at first light.

12 December

(1) All units maintained positions and maintained local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

131900H At ZD324011 a T70-10 strike hit a village resulting in five civilian KIA and two WIA. WIAS MEDEVACED.

14 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

141100H Recon observed 4 VC at ZC195993 moving west. VC had packs and rifles. Units in the area alerted.

141515H Recon took two VC under fire and killed same.

141939H District Headquarters reported that ARVN forces killed one VC and captured one automatic weapon.

15 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

151250H Recon apprehended a VCS at ZC206977. VCS was taken to ITT for interrogation.

151515H Recon apprehended a VCS at ZC201984. VCS was taken to ITT for interrogation.

16 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

161400H Company G apprehended one VCS at ZC155997. VCS was turned over to District Headquarters.

161400H Company G apprehended one VCS at ZD192022. VCS was turned over to District Headquarters.

17 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

171050H Company F received 3 rounds of SAW from ZD189013. Fire returned and area checked with neg. results.

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172248H Company G observed two boats at ZD158027. Took boats under fire with SAF resulting in three VC WIA.

18 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

182122H Company F engaged 10 VC at ZD192002. VC taken under fire resulting in 4 VC WIA.

182125H Company G made contact with 4 VC at ZD155998. VC withdrew under fire.

19 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. One significant incident is noted below.

191900H Company H received 30-40 rounds of SAF from ZD158021. Fire returned and area checked with negative results.

20 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. There were no significant incidents.

21 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

211415H Train detonated mine at ZD 181009. Four cars were derailed and one was burning.

22 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

220900H Railroad was checked and was found blown in three places 200 to 600 meters from ZD 186009.

221000H Two mines were found in trail at ZD 107017. Mines blown in place.

23 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. One significant incident listed below.

232031H Company G observed lights at ZD 154014. Sent squad to investigate. Received 20 rds SAF from two VC. Squad returned fire resulting in one VC KIA and one VC WIA.

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24 December

- (1) 241200H Assumed OPCON of Company E 2/26 and dropped Company G to OPCON 2/9.
- (2) 241200H Operation Pawnee III terminated.
- (3) 241430H Alfa Command Group and Company E and Company H enroute to operation Chinook area.
- (4) 241630H Alfa Command Group and Co. E arrived Operation Chinook.
- (5) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security.
- (6) 242130H Company H arrived Operation Chinook.

25 December

- (1) 251300H Company F arrived at operation Chinook area.
- (2) 251530H Bravo Command Group arrived Operation Chinook.
- (3) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security.

26 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and maintained local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

261205H Company F patrol found one village deserted with punji pits and fighting holes in area. Destroyed punji pits and filled in fighting holes.

261340H Company F encountered 4 VC at YD500329. VC ran into brush and search of area could not locate them.

261430H Company F found 2,000 pounds of rice and apprehended two VC. VC delivered to District Headquarters.

27 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

270910H Company F found mine at YD497360. Mine was blown in place.

271130H Rice & ass't ammo found in house at YD514343. Rice and ammo was turned over to District Headquarters.

271430H Company F apprehended one VC. VC turned over to Collection Point.

28 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security. Significant incidents are noted below.

281345H Company H found one 81mm mortar booby trap with trip wire across trail at YD547343. Mine was blown in place.

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(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security and night ambushes. One significant incident is noted below.

291030H Company E found three 75mm recoilless rifle rounds in brush at YD506353. Rounds turned over to engineers to be blown.

30 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security and night ambushes. Significant incidents are noted below.

301150H Company F found two punji pits 1'x2'x2'. There were three bamboo stakes 6" high in each. Pits were destroyed.

31 December

(1) All units maintained defensive positions and conducted local security and night ambushes. Significant incidents are noted below.

311400H Company F found three punji pits on trail at YD509340 to YD511340. Pits were destroyed by grenades.

311445H Company H found two new punji pits at YD503334. Pits were destroyed by grenades.

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## FIRE SUPPORT COORDINATION

1. Significant Events. An extensive H&I program was fired during the month of December.

a. Artillery providing direct support: Battery "B", 1st Battalion, 12th Marines

b. Artillery providing general support: None

c. Ships providing Naval Gunfire Support: Unknown

d. Types and numbers of missions:

(1) Artillery

(a) observed 30	(f) prep fires 10
(b) unobserved 5	(g) training missions 0
(c) Groups of fire 0	(h) defensive fires 4
(d) H&I 1161	(i) total 1210
(e) Neutralization 0	

(2) 81mm Mortars

(a) observed 102	(e) neutralization 4
(b) unobserved 542	(f) prep fires 4
(c) groups of fire 0	(g) registration of defensive fires 13
(d) H&I 556	(h) total 1221

(3) Naval Gunfire missions fired

(a) observed 4	(c) H&I 0
(b) unobserved 0	(d) total 4

(4) 106mm Recoilless rifle

(a) observed 1	(c) H&I 16
(b) unobserved 0	(d) total 17

e. Ammo expended by type

(1) Direct Support

(a) HE 3763	(c) HC 6
(b) WP 24	(d) Illum 90

(2) Naval Gunfire

(a) HE 73	
-----------	--

(3) 81mm Mortars

(a) HE (medium) 2071	(c) Illum 133
(b) HE (light) 0	(d) WP 0

(4) 106mm Recoilles rifle

(a) HEMP 202	(b) HEAT 18
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f. Significant Events.

(1) Secondary Explosions 2

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COMMUNITY RELATIONS1. CIVIL AFFAIRS/MILITARY GOVERNMENT/COMMUNITY RELATIONS.

a. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS. During the period ten MEDCAP patrols were conducted in the Battalion's TAOR. Also during the period clothing and self-help tool kits were distributed in the village of NUOC NGOT (ZD 142007).

Trucks from the Battalion completed hauling sand and gravel which was used as fill around the local schools. Labor was performed by local villagers from PHUOC TUONG (ZD 117022) and NUOC NGOT (ZD 142007), while security was provided by Marines.

b. MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED. During the period the following materials were distributed:

- (1). Two (2) 30 lb. boxes of clothing.
- (2). Three (3) Carpenters Kits.
- (3). Two (2) Brick Laying Kits.

c. SPECIFIC CIVIC ACTION PROJECTS. None

d. APPARENT RESULTS OF CIVIL AFFAIRS PROGRAM. It is not possible to draw any conclusions about the apparent results of the civil affairs program due to the short period of time the Battalion has been in this area.

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## COMBAT AIR SUPPORT

## 1. Combat Air Support

a. Air support for this Battalion was provided by the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

b. AO support was provided by the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing and Army Aviation.

## 2. Significant Events.

a. Close Air Support. There was no close air support for the month of December.

b. TPQ-10. Extensive use of TPQ-10 radar bombing was employed in the Battalion TAOR during the month of December for harrassment and interdiction of the enemy. A total of 163 TPQ-10 sorties provided extensive coverage of possible and determined enemy positions. At 1900 on 13 December four 250 pound bombs were dropped into the village of THON PHU GIA 1800 meters short of the assigned TPQ-10 target, resulting in the death of five civilians and destruction of two homes. All subsequent TPQ's were plotted with a 3000 meter safety factor.

## c. Helicopter Support

## (1) MEDEVACCS

DATE	SORTIES	TYPE AND NUMBER
3 Dec	1	3 USMC WIA
8 Dec	4	2 USMC WIA
10 Dec	1	2 Civ Injured
13 Dec	2	3 Civ Injured
25 Dec	1	1 USMC NHA

## (2) Reconnaissance Insertions/Extractions

INSERTIONS	SORTIES	EXTRACCTIONS	SORTIES
3 Dec	2	6 Dec	2
5 Dec	2	12 Dec	2
9 Dec	2		

d. Air support for the month of December was excellent. Inclement weather, however, hampered more extensive use of air support.

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## LOGISTICS

1. Supply. During the month of December 1966 the supply situation within this Battalion has been relatively unchanged from previous reports. On hand quantities of end items is good but fills on requisitions for replenishment items has been very poor. Although the critical shortage of rifles 7.62mm M-14 has been alleviated, there still exists a critical shortage of individual equipment, resulting in about 130 persons in the Battalion who cannot be committed to field work for lack of equipment.

2. Resupply. The method of resupply during Operation Pawnee III relied largely on trucks with helicopter backup.

During December 1966, Operation Pawnee III was terminated and the Battalion immediately was deployed in Operation Chinook. In the latter, which became a Regimental Operation upon commitment of this Battalion, this Battalion had attached, a detachment of Shore Party to provide a Logistic Support Activity. However, this LSA was resupplied through the LSA at the 3d Battalion, 26th Marines which was in the vicinity and did not have direct support from FLSU #2. For this reason, and because the tactical situation of this Battalion precluded the maintaining of a large dump, the Shore Party Detachment was reduced in strength to a 10 man HST.

3. Transportation.

a. Organic transportation was good except for an excessive deadline rate.

b. The Platoon (-) of 3d Motor Transport attached during Operation Pawnee III remained adequate. No element of Motor Transport is attached to this Battalion for Operation Chinook. Transportation support is provided by Regiment and has been adequate.

4. Maintenance.

a. Maintenance of the organic Motor Transport is poor, especially as regards the cargo carrier, utility M-274A2. Of a T/E of 30 M-274A2, a total of 13 are on deadline, five of which are 3d echelon and eight of which are on 2d echelon deadline. The lack of spare parts for this vehicle remains unchanged and is the cause of the excessive deadline rate.

b. Maintenance of all other items of equipment remains good.

5. Cantonments. The administrative rear of this Battalion remains in cantonment at Phu Bai. In addition to housing the administrative personnel, the cantonment area serves as a storage area for the Battalion supplies and equipment not committed to the field, an area of medical treatment for not so seriously ill or injured so as to require evacuation, a reception and departure area for personnel joining and leaving the Battalion, and an area for rehabilitation of the Battalion between operations.

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**DECLASSIFIED** MEDICAL AND DENTAL SUPPORT (Surg)A. Name of Surgeon: LT. T. T. STEINMAN MC USNRB. Significant Events: NoneC. Medical Trends: Numerous cases of Immersion Foot appearing after patrols of as little length as 24 hours.D. Number of Battle Casualties: 01

(1) Shrapnel type wounds

E. Number of Non-Battle Patients Treated: 853

(1) Admissions to BAS: 24

(2) Emergency Treatment:

(a) Heat Casualties: 01

(b) Lacerations: 05

(c) Trauma: 02

(d) Burns: 05

(3) Number of Consultations to 3rdMedBn and NSA Hospitals: 03

(4) Cases of significant Diseases of the Area:

(a) Malaria: 00

(b) Hookworm: 03

(c) Bacillary Dysentary: 00

(5) Cases of Venereal Disease: 02

(a) Acquired Out of Country: 00

(b) Acquired in Country: 02

F. Preventive Medicine and Sanitation:

(1) Number of Innoculations: 177

(2) Other: The use of mosquito repellent is in effect. All personnel are participating in the malaria prophylaxis program weekly, on Sundays, and have received instructions in Personal Hygiene.

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7. Services.

a. The water purification facilities provided by the 3d Engineer Battalion were adequate during Operation Pawnee III.

b. Potable water was provided by a water purification unit of the 3d Battalion, 26th Marines during Operation Chinook, and resources and supply were adequate.

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G. Civil Affairs Medical Support Rendered:

- (1) Number treated: 430
- (2) Referrals to corrective surgery: 00

Problem Areas: Nothing to report

Dental Referrals: 98

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## CHAPLAIN SUPPORT

1. Chaplain Support.

a. Name of chaplain: Hebert W. BOLLES

b. Services by type and number of personnel attending:

30	Protestant Divine Services	- 554
14	Holy Communion (Episcopal)	- 56
1	Memorial Service	- 35

c. Number of personnel seeking counseling: 12

d. Significant Activities:

5 Hospital calls

Provision of gifts for people to people, mainly provided by  
Ladies of the 2d Battalion, 26th Marines, Cub Scouts,  
and Diocese of Los Angeles.

e. Facilities: Adequate

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## PART IV

## S-3 JOURNAL EXTRACTS

<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
011805H	Bridge destroyed. Spot report to Div. COC.
011400H	Company G apprehended 9 VCS. Spot report to Div. COC.
01135H	Company E found nine. Spot report to Div. COC.
011905H	OP spotted 3 VC. Spot report to Div. COC.
011911H	81mm fire mission called. Spot report to Div. COC.
021117H	Area check with new results. Spot report to Div. COC.
031455H	Company H received SAF and recoilless rifle fire, resulting in seven WIA. Spot report to Div. COC.
032210H	Bridge received fire. Spot report to Div. COC.
041459H	Two VCS apprehended. Spot report to Div. COC.
042110H	Company H observed lights moving north. Spot report to Div. COC.
050115H	Company H spotted 3 VC. Spot report to Div. COC.
050200H	Company H spotted 3 VC. Spot report to Div. COC.
052055H	Company G spotted lights. Spot report to Div. COC.
061547H	Recon found 11 fighting holes. Spot report to Div. COC.
061830H	Company G patrol made contact with 6 VC. Spot report to Div. COC.
071552H	Company H report two burst of SAF. Spot report to Div. COC.
072116H	Lights spotted by OP#1. Spot report to Div. COC.
080030H	Grenade thrown at "B" Btry. position. Spot report to Div. COC.
081420H	Company G made contact with 2 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA and 1 VC WIA. Spot report to Div. COC.
081030H	Company G made contact with 4 VC. Spot report to Div. COC.
081005H	Company G made contact with 4 VC, killing one. Spot report to Div. COC.
081105H	Company H apprehended 1 VC. Spot report to Div. COC.
081240H	Company G encountered 7 VC. Spot report to Div. COC.
091335H	Unknown number of VC took company G under fire. Spot report to Div. COC.
090900H	Company H found rice. Spot report to Div. COC.
090945H	Company H found punji pits. Spot report to Div. COC.
092417H	OP spotted lights. Spot report to Div. COC.
111005H	Company H found rice. Spot report to Div. COC.
111030H	Company H found asst'd ammo. Spot report to Div. COC.
111600H	Company G apprehended two VCS. Spot report to Div. COC.
111950H	Company F apprehended two VCS. Spot report to Div. COC.
122003H	Company H reported four explosions. Spot report to Div. COC.
131830H	T20 strike hit village. Spot report to Div. COC.
141120H	Recon observed VC. Fire mission called. Spot report to Div. COC.
141701H	Recon killed two VC. Spot report to Div. COC.
141935H	ARVMS reported in fire fight. Spot report to Div. COC.
151248H	Recon captured one VCS. Spot report to Div. COC.
151546H	Recon captured one VCS. Spot report to Div. COC.
161411H	Company G apprehended one VC.
161439H	Company G apprehended one VCS.
161100H	Company H received SAF.
162140H	Company H wounded 4 VC.
162220H	Company G made contact.
171925H	Company H received fire.
220240H	Train blown.

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211025H Two mines found in trail. Spot report to Div. COC.  
232335H Company G observed lights. Spot report to Div. COC.  
211200H Operation Pawnee III terminated.  
241000H Command Group Alfa, Company E and H departed.  
251303H Company F departed.  
261220H Company F found fighting holes and punji pits. Spot report to Regt. COC.  
271355H Company F scouted 4 VC. Spot report to Regt. COC.  
261515H Company F found rice. Spot report to Regt. COC.  
271030H Mine found by Company E. Spot report to Regt. COC.  
271141H Rice and ammo found in house. Spot report to Regt. COC.  
271156H Company F apprehended one VCS. Spot report to Regt. COC.  
281357H Company H found booby trap. Spot report to Regt. COC.  
291331H Company G found two recoilless rifle rounds. Spot report to Regt. COC.  
301208H Company F found two punji pits. Spot report to Regt. COC.  
311415H Company F found three punji pits. Spot report to Regt. COC.  
311515H Company H found two punji pits. Spot report to Regt. COC.

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HEADQUARTERS  
2nd Battalion, 26th Marines  
Phu Bai, RVN

281200H Oct 1966

## OPERATION ORDER 7-66

Ref: (a) Maps: Vietnam 1:50,000 AMS Series L701, Sheets 6559I, 6560II, 6659IV  
(b) CG Third MarDiv Frag Order 424-66 (Operation PAWNEE III)

Task Organization: Annex A (Task Organization)

1. Situation

- a. Enemy Forces. Current Intsums and Perintreps
- b. Friendly Forces
  - (1) First MAW provides CAS and Helo Spt.
  - (2) Phu Loc District PF Forces located in assigned operating area.
  - (3) First ARVN Division's First Recon Co. assigned mission of patrolling Highway #1 in Phu Loc Area.
  - (4) 916th RF Co. operates in objective area.
  - (5) Battery "B", 1st Bn, 12th Marines--Direct Support.

2. Mission

- a. Commencing 290800H Oct 66 move by motor march to Phu Loc area.
- b. Conduct search and destroy operation in assigned area.
- c. Conduct extensive patrols and ambushes to deny the enemy freedom of movement and prevent infiltration of LOC's in operation area.
- d. On order conduct motorized patrols along national route #1 in support of scheduled rough rider convoys.
- e. Conduct random motorized patrols to Lang Co bridge.

3. Execution

- (a) Concert of Operations
  - (1) See Annex B (Operation Overlay)

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(2) Second Bn (-) (Rein), Twenty Sixth Marines moves by motor march to the Phu Loc area, establishes three company tactical areas of responsibility, conducts search and destroy operations in conjunction with local district and sector forces in operating area. Extensive patrolling and ambushes will be conducted to deny enemy forces freedom of movement through out the operating area and to prevent interdiction of LOC's. On order conduct motorized patrols in support of scheduled rough rider convoys.

b. Company E (Rein)

(1) Move by motor march in accordance with Annex C to assigned TAOR and establish patrol base (s) vicinity AU 806016.

(2) Conduct aggressive patrolling in assigned area and establish blocking positions and/or ambushes as required to destroy enemy forces and installations in zone and to deny him access to Highway #1 and railroad.

(3) On order be prepared to attack and destroy enemy and enemy installations anywhere in the battalion TAOR.

c. Company G (Rein)

(1) Move by motor march in accordance with annex C to assigned TAOR and establish patrol base (s) vicinity ZD 127017.

(2) Conduct aggressive patrolling in assigned area and establish blocking positions and/or ambushes as required to destroy enemy forces and installations in zone and to deny him access to Highway #1 and railroad.

(3) On order be prepared to attack and destroy enemy and enemy installations anywhere in the battalion TAOR.

d. Company H (-) (Rein)

(1) Move by motor march in accordance with Annex C to assigned TAOR and establish patrol base (s) vicinity ZD 056027.

(2) Conduct aggressive patrolling in assigned area and establish blocking positions and/or ambushes as required to destroy enemy forces and installations in zone and to deny him access to Highway #1 and railroad.

(3) On order be prepared to attack and destroy enemy and enemy installations anywhere in the battalion TAOR.

e. " " Plt. 3rd Recon Bn. - General Support

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f. " " Plt, Co. B, 9th MT Bn. General Supportg. Battalion Reserve

(1) " " Plt, Co H (-) (Rein)

(a) Move by motor march in accordance with Annex C and occupy defensive positions vicinity ZD 118014.

(b) On order conduct motorized patrols as directed.

(c) Be prepared for employment within battalion TAOR as may be directed.

h. Coordination Instructions

(1) Annex B (Operation Overlay)

(2) Caution all hands to be alert for mines and booby traps.

(3) Caution all hands it is a forbidden practice to carry grenades hanging from any part of equipment or clothing.

(4) All troops will maintain a 15 meter interval to minimize effects of explosive munitions.

(5) All vehicles will maintain a 100 meter interval to minimize effects of either explosive munitions or ambushes.

(6) Unclassified code name—PAWNEE III

(7) GVN forces will be responsible for Route #1, railroad and 50 meters on each side of these LOC's. U.S. Troops will insure complete liaison is established with GVN forces prior to crossing these LOC's especially during the hours of darkness.

4. Administration and Logistics. Annex D.5. Command and Communication.a. Electronics. Annex Eb. Command Post..

(1) 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines, ZD 118015.

(2) All units report locations when established.

c. Coordinating Instructions(1) VisualDECLASSIFIED  
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(a) All companies will carry AP-30 D Panels.

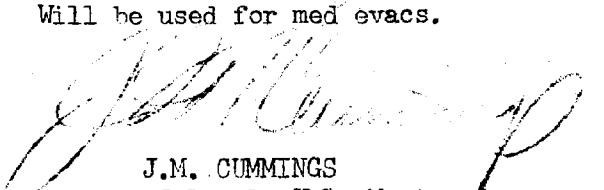
(2) Pyrotechnics.

(a) Smoke:

Grenade, Rifle, White Smoke or 3.5, - Marking of enemy positions.  
White Phosphorous

Signal, Ground, Yellow Smoke, M-64, - Marking of friendly unit positions.  
DAY Will be used for med evacs.

Signal, Ground, Green Star Cluster,  
M-125, NIGHT



J.M. CUMMINGS

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

ANNEXES:

- A - Task Organization
- B - Operation Overlay
- C - Movement
- D - Administration and Logistics
- E - Electronics

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HEADQUARTERS  
2d Battalion, 26th Marines  
PHU BAI, RVN

2812001 Oct66

## ANNEX A (Task Organization) to Operation Order 7-66

Ref: (a) Maps: Vietnam 1:50,000 AMS Series L701, Sheets 6559I, 6560I  
 (b) CG, Third MarDiv Frag Order 424-66 (Operation Pawnee III)

Time Zone: HOTEL

Task Organization2dBn, 26th Marines

Lt Col J. M. CUMMINGS

H&SCo (-)(Rein)

Capt P. MORIGEAU

PLt, CoB, Third Recon Bn  
 Det, CoB, Ninth MT Bn  
 Det, (HST), CoA, Third SP Bn

Co E (Rein)

Capt J. JOY

1st Section 81MM Mortars  
 Det, Btry B, 1st Bn, 12thMar (FO TM)

Co G (Rein)

Capt A. P. SGAMBELLURI

3d Section 81MM Mortars

Det, Btry B, 1st Bn, 12thMar (FO TM)

Co H (Rein)

Capt W. E. SYKES

4th Section 81MM Mortars

Det, Btry B, 1st Bn, 12thMar (FO TM)

*J. M. Cummings*  
 J. M. CUMMINGS  
 Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps

Commanding

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 281200 Oct 66

## Annex C (Movement) to Operation Plan 7-66

Ref: (a) Maps: Sheets 6559 I Phu Loc; 6659 IV Than An Cu Dang; 6560 II, Vinh Loc

Time Zone: H

1. Supplies and Equipment

a. Initial Staging

- (1) Prescribed loads will be staged in the Company areas prepared to be loaded on trucks, M-35.
- (2) Cargo carriers (M-274's) will be mobile loaded and loaded aboard trucks, M-35, 6x6.
- (3) Supplies required to establish Battalion dump levels outlined in Annex D, will be staged on 29 October in the Battalion dumps in the Phu Bai complex.

b. Establishment of Dumps. Locations of Battalion and Company supply dumps will be established as soon as possible after movement into the Battalion Command Post and Company patrol bases.

c. Movement

(1) Prescribed loads as designated by Annex D will be carried in convoy with the troop movement.

(2) Resupply will be in accordance with Annex D commencing on D+1.

2. Movement Schedule.

a. Serial 101- depart 290800H Oct 66

(10) M-35- "G" Company

(1) M-35 w/M105 trl- Communication Equipment

(1) M-35 w/PU-482 Generator- Communications Equipment

(1) M-35- H&S Company Security Personnel

(1) MRC-87

(4) M-422 w/M416B1 trl- Command Group Alpha

(1) M-422 w/M416B1 trl- "G" Company

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b. Serial 102- depart 291100H Oct 66.

(10) M-35- "E" Company

(2) M-35- H&S Security Personnel

(1) M-35- H&S Company Equipment

(1) M-422 w/M16B1 trl "E" Company

c. Serial 103- depart 291400H Oct 66.

(10) M-35- "H" Company

(1) M-422 w/M16B1 trl- "H" Company

d. Serial 104- depart 291700H Oct 66.

(5) M-35- Command Group Bravo

(6) M-422 w/M16B1 trl- Command Group Bravo

e. Serial 105- depart on call

(6) M-35 w/105 Howitzer- "B" Battery, 12th Marines

(4) M-35 w/M105 trl- "B" Battery, 12th Marines

3. Check Points. Check points for convoy control are established as follows:

a. Check Point #1: 040025

b. Check Point #2: 084007

c. Check Point #3: 121015

d. Check Point #4: 152011

e. Check Point #5: 198011

f. Check Point #6: 825007

4. Control.

a. Company commander will be the senior officer with tactical command for each convoy.

b. FAG will accompany each convoy.

c. Company commanders will report passage of each checkpoint.

d. 100 meter intervals will be maintained between each vehicle in convoy.

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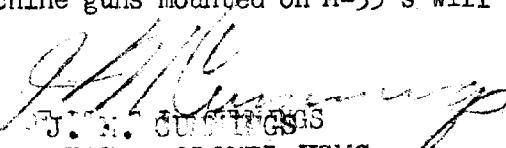
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5. Coordinating Instructions.

- a. Maximum speed will be 20 mph if road and weather conditions permit.
- b. Breakdown of vehicles will be reported immediately to this Headquarters by radio.
- c. Disabled vehicles will be left with security while the remainder of the convoy proceeds to its destination.
- d. Security of the convoy will be the responsibility of the convoy commander.
- e. Vehicles will not be sand-bagged but will be uncovered.
- f. Caliber 50 machine guns mounted on M-35's will be manned.

En



J. M. CUNNINGHAM  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL USMC  
COMMANDING

W. J. MILAN, Jr.

Major

1st Marine Division

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Copy 3 of 80 copies~~DECLASSIFIED~~2nd Battalion, 26th Marines  
Phu Bai, RVN  
281200 Oct 1966Annex D (Administrative and Logistics) to Operation Order  
7-66

Ref.: (a) Maps: Sheets 6559 I, Phu Loc; 6659 IV, Than An Cu Dang; 6560 II-Vinh Loc.  
 (b) 3rd MarDiv Admin Order 377-66  
 (c) DivO P4000.1

Time Zone H

1. Supply

a. General: Resupply will be in accordance with references (b) and (c).

b. Control and Distribution: Unit distribution to maintain established dump levels. Increase of dump levels will be as authorized by the Battalion Commanding Officer.

c. Dump Levels:(1) Battalion(a) Class I

1 MCI-----2 DOS  
 2 Ration Operational "B"---2 DOS  
 3 Ration Operational "A"---within capabilities  
 to store.  
 4 Supplementary Packets---2 DOS

(b) Class II

1 T/E equipment as determined by Section Heads necessary for operations.

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2 Limited amount of selected spare parts.  
 3 Batteries-----3 DOS  
 4 Wire-----10 miles  
 5 Vehicles-----as required by each

Section.

(c) Class III

1 MOGAS (drummed)-----3 DOS  
 2 DIESEL-----3 DOS  
 3 POL-----5 DOS  
 4 KEROSENE-----5 DOS

(d) Class IV None. Resupply as required(e) Class V

below

1 3 DOA all types except mines, and as listed  
 2 5 DOA 81mm Illumn  
 2 0 Mines

(f) Medical: 10 DOS(g) Water:

1 One M-107 per Company (4)

(?) Company:(a) Class I

4 MCI/ individual

(b) Class II

1 T/E equipment  
 2 Vehicles as required  
 3 Batteries 1 DOS

(c) Class III

1 Vehicle gas tanks filled  
 2 2-5 Gal. expeditionary cans per vehicle

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- 1 Basic Allowance all types except no mines
- 2 4 DOA 81mm Illum.

(f) Medical

- 1 Beach bag
- 2 Unit 1's complete for each corpsmen.

(g) Water

- 1 20-5 gal. expeditionary cans per rifle Company; 40 per H&S Company
- 2 1-M107 stationed at each position.

## d. Prescribed Loads:

(1) Companies

- (a) Class I- 2MCI's w/tricane per individual.
- (b) Class II As required
- (c) Class III Two 5 gal expeditionary cans per vehicle

- (d) Class IV-None
- (e) Class V Basic allowance not carried by individuals
- (f) Water 20- 5 gal expeditionary water cans; 40 per H&S Company

(g) Medical

- 1 Beach bag
- 2 Unit 1's per corpsman

(2) Individuals

- (a) Normal arms and equipment including armored vests.

- (b) Field Transport Pack

- (c) 2 MCI's per individual

- (d) Basic allowance of ammunition.

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e. Supplies and Equipment Available

- (1) Prescribed Loads
- (2) Dumps will be built to levels as soon as possible.

f. Resupply:

- (1) Submit all requests to Battalion S-4
- (2) Air Resupply in accordance with reference (b).

g. Capture Materials In accordance with reference (b).

2. Evacuation and Hospitalization:

- a. In accordance with reference (b).
- b. Helicopters will be used for emergency resupply.
- c. Helicopters will be used extensively for emergency med evac.

3. Transportation:

- a. Det Co. B 9th Motor Transport will provide 10-20 ton trucks attached to be used for resupply and troop movement.
- b. Division MTO will provide 3 additional trucks for D-day.
- c. Troop movement in accordance with Annex C.
- d. Supplies will be delivered on D-1 to establish dump levels.

e. Priority of resupply is as follows:

- (1) Class I
- (2) Water
- (3) Class V
- (4) Medical
- (5) Class III
- (6) Class II
- (7) Class IV, when required.

f. Trucks will be utilized for resupply of Companies and Battalion dumps.

g. Trucks will be utilized for med evac. other than emergencies.

h. Speed limits as prescribed by reference (b)

i. A minimum of two vehicle will be dispatched at all times. Each vehicle will carry at least one security person in addition to the driver.

j. Air transportation will be minimized except for emergency med evac and resupply.

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**CONFIDENTIAL**4. Service ~~DECLASSIFIED~~a. Maintenance

(1) Limited 2nd echelon repair of motor vehicles, ordnance, and communications equipment will be performed in the forward Battalion Command Post.

(2) Equipment requiring repair and/or maintenance not within the 2nd echelon capabilities of the forward C.P. will be returned to the Phu Bai Complex for repair and/or processing.

b. Construction: Minimum essential requirement for combat operations.c. Other

(1) A water purification unit will be established in the vicinity of the forward Battalion C.P. to provide potable water.

5. Personnel

a. All subordinate units will enter the operation at present strengths less those administrative personnel required for the administration of the administrative rear.

b. Other administrative procedures will be in accordance with reference (b).

6. Miscellaneous:

a. Civil Affairs: In accordance with reference (b)

b. Reports: In accordance with reference (b)

c. Rear Area Defence: As determined by the OIC of the Administrative Rear.

d. Supply Instructions

(1) Supply functions will continue in the Administrative Rear.

e. Administrative Rear:

(1) An administrative rear will be established to conduct all routine Battalion and Company Administration

(2) Supply Accounting, requisitioning, and warehousing will be conducted in the Administrative Rear.

(3) In addition, the following sections will conduct routine operations in the Administrative Rear in addition to the required support with the forward element.

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- (a) Motion Transport
- (b) Mess
- (c) Battalion Aid Station
- (d) Battalion Armory
- (e) Communication Section



J. A. CLEGG  
LEUTNANT COLONEL USMC C/1  
COMMANDING

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OP ORDER 7-66

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3RD MAR DIV (REINF)

PHU BAI, VIETNAM

## ANNEX E (COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS) TO OPERATION ORDER 7-66

REF: (A) 3RD MAR DIV FRAG ORDER 424-66  
(B) 3RD MAR DIV ORDER PO 2000.2E (COI)  
(C) BN ORDER P2300.1 (COMM SOP)

MAPS: PHU LOC 6559 I

THON AN CU DONG 6659 IV

TIME ZONE: HOTEL (-8)

1. SITUATIONA. ENEMY FORCES.

- (1) SEE CURRENT ISUMS AND PER INT REPS.
- (2) THE ENEMY HAS THE CAPABILITY TO MONITOR RADIO NETS AND PRACTICE IMMITATIVE DECEPTION.
- (3) THE ENEMY HAS THE CAPABILITY TO USE DISCARDED COMMUNICATION WIRE AND RADIO BATTERIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF MINES AND BOOBIE TRAPS.

B. FRIENDLY FORCES.

- (1) SEE ANNEX A (TASK ORGANIZATION)
- (2) COMMAND POSTS - SEE OPERATIONS OVERLAY TO THIS ORDER.

2. MISSION.A. RADIO RELAY ATTACHMENT. ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN BATTALION TERMINAL OF RADIO RELAY AT COORDINATES ZD 117014 SHOT TO 3RD MAR DIV C.P.B. RADIO.

- (1) OPERATE RADIO NETS IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPENDIX (1) (RADIO FREQUENCY PLAN) TO THIS ANNEX.
- (2) PROVIDE OPERATORS TO MAN STATIONS ON BN TAC # 1 AND BN TAC # 2 AT REAR COMMAND POST.

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(3) PROVIDE ONE RADIO OPERATOR TO EACH RIFLE COMPANY.

C. WIRE.

(1) INSTALL AND MAINTAIN BATTALION WIRE SYSTEM IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPENDIX 2. (RADIO RELAY AND WIRE DIAGRAM) TO THIS ANNEX.

(2) PROVIDE SWITCHBOARD OPERATORS AT REAR COMMAND POST.

D. MESSAGE CENTER.

(1) INSTALL AND OPERATE FIELD MESSAGE CENTER AT BATTALION COMMAND POST TO INCLUDE A COVERED TELETYPE CIRCUIT TO 3RD MAR DIV.

(2) PROVIDE ONE MESSAGE CENTER MAN AT REAR COMMAND POST.

E. MAINTENANCE.

(1) PROVIDE CAMP ELECTRICAL POWER AT THE BATTALION COMMAND POST TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES:

(A) RADIO RELAY POWER CONVERTER.

(B) COMMUNICATION CENTER.

(C) OPERATION TENT.

(D) OFFICE AND LIVING SPACES AS DIRECTED.

(2) MAINTENANCE FACILITIES WILL REMAIN AT BATTALION REAR COMMAND POST.

F. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS.

(1) BREVITY CODES, DELTA THROUGH MIKE, WILL BE EFFECTIVE WHILE OPERATING IN THE AREA. THE PARTICULAR SHEET IN EFFECT WILL BE PROMULGATED BY MESSAGE.

(2) SHACKLE AND AUTHENTICATION IN EFFECT FOR THIS AREA ON BATTALION CIRCUITS WILL BE KAC (QT).

(3) AUTHENTICATION ON DIVISION NETS WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFERENCE (A).

(4) SHACKLE ON DIVISION NETS WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFERENCE (A).

(5) CALL SIGNS WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPENDIX 3 (RADIO AND TELEPHONE CALL SIGNS) TO THIS ANNEX.

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- (6) DATE TIME GROUPS ON MESSAGES WITHIN THE BATTALION WILL BE IN HOTEL TIME.
- (7) REPORT ANY INSTANCES OF JAMMING AND IMMITATIVE DECEPTION TO THE COMMUNICATION OFFICER.
- (8) TELEPHONE DIRECTORY IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFERENCE (B) AS MODIFIED BY LOCAL DIRECTORIES.
- (9) ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE TRAFFIC WILL BE PASSED ON BATTALION TAC NET SECONDARY FREQUENCY USING PROPER MESSAGE FORMAT. BATTALION STAFF SECTIONS AND COMPANY REARS DELIVER OUTGOING ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE TRAFFIC TO THE RADIO OPERATOR IN S-3 HUT ON FIELD MESSAGE BLANKS.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

- A. COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS REPORTS TO HIGHER HEADQUARTERS WILL BE PREPARED BY THE COMMUNICATION OFFICER.
- B. COMPANIES WILL DRAW BATTERIES FROM BATTALION SUPPLY.
- C. RADIOS REQUIRING SECOND ECHELON MAINTENANCE WILL BE TURNED IN TO THE BATTALION COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS MAINTENANCE SHOP AT REAR COMMAND POST.
- D. RADIOS REQUIRING MAINTENANCE ABOVE SECOND ECHELON WILL BE FORWARDED TO FORCE LOGISTICS SUPPORT UNIT BY THE BATTALION COMMUNICATIONS MAINTENANCE SHOP.
- E. COMPANIES WILL DRAW PANEL SET AP-300 FROM COMMUNICATION PLATOON.



J.M. CUMMINGS  
COMMANDING

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A-3

(A)

CONFIDENTIALDECLASSIFIED2ND BN 6TH MAR  
3RD MAR DIV (REINF)  
PHU BAI, VIETNAM

APPENDIX 1 (RADIO FREQUENCY PLAN TO ANNEX A (COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS TO FRAG ORDER 424-66.

C - CONTROL  
 X - GUARD  
 R - AS REQUIRED

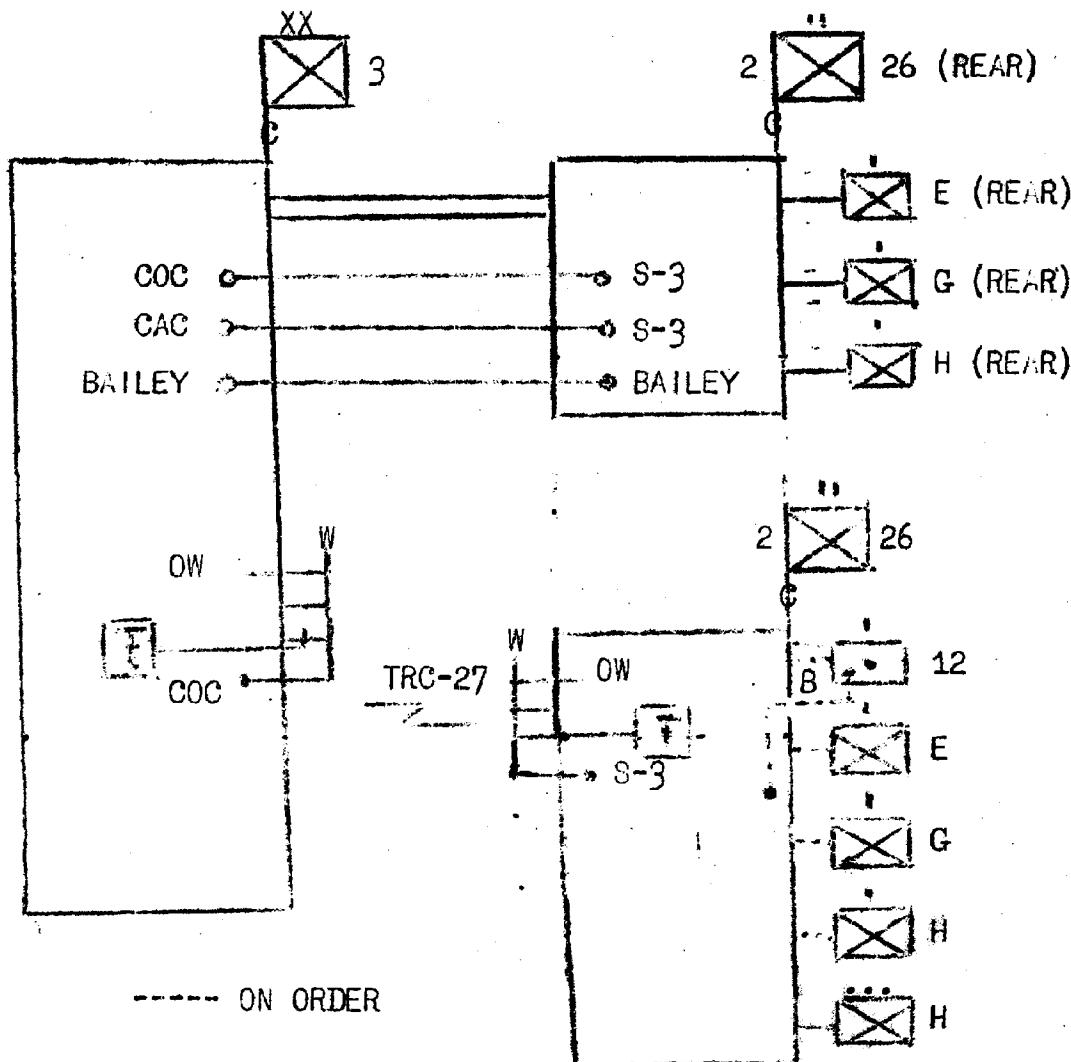
DESIGNATOR	FREQUENCY (P)	UNITS
3RD MAR DIV	M-15	2244 DIV TAC # 1
3RD MAR DIV FSCC	M-274	52.85 DIV TAC # 2
2/26	M-655	46.1 DIV TAC # 3
FSCC 2/26	M-77	3384 BN TAC # 1
"E" 2/26	M-734	52.05 BN TAC # 2 (P)
"F" 2/26	M-540	40.3 BN TAC # 2 (S)
"G" 2/26	M-645	45.6 BN MORTAR NET
"H" 2/26	M-482	37.0 ARTY COF
MORTAR PLATOON	M-763	54.4 E CO TAC
ARTILLERY F.O.'S	M-737	52.4 F CO TAC
LNO AT PHU LOC	M-772	54.8 H CO TAC
2/26 REAR	M-675	47.6 G CO TAC
	M-90	3895 U(P) TAR PHU BAI DASC
	M-28	2530 U(S) TAR PHU BAI DASC
	M-547	40.7 DAO # 1
	M-659	46.3 DAO # 2
	M-1284	341.4 TAD # 1 BLUE
	M-1243	313.5 TAD # 2 ORANGE
	M-1245	314.6 TAD # 3 PURPLE
	M-1223	283.3 TAD # 4 BROWN
	M-1184	236.2 TAD # 5 BLACK
	M-700	49.8 LZ CONTROL
	M-1279	338.4 HD # 1 GOLD
	M-1269	328.2 HD # 2 RED
	M-1297	383.5 HD # 3 SILVER
	M-599	43.5 HD # 4 YELLOW
	M-561	41.2 HD # 5 CRIMSON

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(A)

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~~DECLASSIFIED~~2ND BN 26TH MAR  
3RD MAR DIV (REINF)  
PHU BAU, VIETNAMAPPENDIX 2 (WIRE DIAGRAM) TO ANNEX A (COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS)  
TO FRAG ORDER 424-66

*J.M. Cummings*  
J.M. CUMMINGS  
COMMANDING

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2ND BN 26TH MAR  
 3RD M, R DIV (REINF)  
 PHU BAI, VIETNAM

APPENDIX 3 (RADIO AND TELEPHONE CALL SIGNS) TO ANNEX A (COMMUNICATION-ELECTRONICS) TO FRAG ORDER.

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>RADIO CALL SIGN</u>	<u>TELEPHONE CALL SIGN</u>
3RD MAR DIV	SUDDEN DEATH	SHOVE
3RD MAR DIV COC	SUDDEN DEATH	SHOVE COC
3RD MAR DIV FSCC	SUDDEN DEATH BAILEY	SHOVE BAILEY
2ND BN 26TH MAR	MONEY	ARLINGTON MILLS
FSCC 2/26	MONEY BAILEY	ARLINGTON MILLS BAILEY
E CO 2/26	MONEY ECHO	ARLINGTON MILLS ECHO
F CO 2/26	MONEY FOXTROT	ARLINGTON MILLS FOXTROT
G CO 2/26	MONEY GOLF	ARLINGTON MILLS GOLF
H CO 2/26	MONEY HOTEL	ARLINGTON MILLS HOTEL
H&S CO 2/26	MONEY Y. NKEE	ARLINGTON MILLS 34
ALO 2/26	MONEY 14	ARLINGTON MILLS BAILEY 14
ARTY FO E CO 2/26	MONEY 61	
ARTY FO F CO 2/26	MONEY 62	
ARTY FO G CO 2/26	MONEY 63	
ARTY FO H CO 2/26	MONEY 64	
MORTAR FDC	MONEY WHISKEY	
MORTAR FO E 2/26	MONEY WHISKEY 1	
MORTAR FO F 2/26	MONEY WHISKEY 2	
MORTAR FO G 2/26	MONEY WHISKEY 3	
MORTAR FO H 2/26	MONEY WHISKEY 4	

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<u>UNIT</u>	<u>RADIO CALL SIGN</u>	<u>TELEPHONE CALL SIGN</u>
"B" BTRY	MORTAGE BRAVO	TINGE
1ST BN 4TH MARINES	PERMISSION	IMPRESSIVE
2ND BN 4TH MARINES	RIDGEBEAM	BENDIX
1/3/B 3RD RECON	BATMAN	
2/3/B 3RD RECON	ROBIN	

  
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 2d Bn, 26th Marines  
 PHU BAI, RVN  
 232330H Dec 66

FRAG ORDER 10-66

Time Zone: Hotel

Ref: (a) Maps: Viet Nam 1:50,000 ANK Series L7014, Sheet 6442 II  
 and 6441 I, AND 6442 III

TASK ORGANIZATION

Second Bn, 26 Marines (Rein) (-)  
 Company E (Rein)  
 Company F (Rein)  
 Company H (Rein)  
 3d Plt. (-), Company E, 9th MP Bn.  
 Det, (HST), Company A, 3d SP Bn.

I Situation

a. Enemy Forces: See current INTSUMS

b. Friendly Forces

1. 3d Bn., 26 Marines
2. 1st MAW provides fixed wing A/C and Huie Gunship on strip alert.
3. Battery B, 4th Bn, 12 Marines, Direct Support.
4. Light Section, 2d Plt. (-), Company B, 3d AT Bn, Direct Support.

c. Attachments

1. One section 81mm Mortars to each company.
2. One section 106mm RR to Company H.
3. Artillery FO Team to each company.

II Mission

Second Bn, Twenty-Six Marines (Rein) (-) at 241000H conducts search and destroy operations in vic YD 503½ as part of Operation Chinook.

III Execution

a. Concept: Two companies and Command Group will land by helicopter and establish company patrol bases as designated by the Battalion Commander. One company will move by truck convoy to operation area and establish a company patrol base as designated.

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 (check)  
 Tab (B)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~DECLASSIFIED~~b. Company E (REIN):

1. Commencing 241000H move by helicopter and establish company patrol base vic YD 504345.
2. Be prepared to attack and destroy enemy forces, on order, any place within operating area.

c. Company F (Rein)

1. Commencing 241200H move by helicopter to vic YD 499349 and establish company patrol base.
2. Be prepared to attack and destroy enemy forces, on order, any place within operating area.

d. Company H (Rein)

1. Commencing 240800H move by motor convoy to vic YD 505350 and establish company patrol base.
2. Be prepared to provide security elements for serials of motor convoy to operating area.
3. Be prepared to attack and deatroy enemy forces, on order, any place within operating area.

e. Coordinating Instructions

1. "H" Hour 241000H December 1966.
2. Submit spot reports as incidents occur.

IV Administration and Logisticsa. Prescribed Loads

1. Three (3) MCI/individual.
2. Two (2) canteens, water/individual.
3. Basic allowance of ammunition.
4. Twenty (20) cans (5gal) water, mobile load/company.
5. Fifty (50) rds. HE 81mm and Fifteen(15) fds Illum. 81mm mortar ammunition minimum/ mortar.

b. Resupply

1. Unit distribution.
- 2 . Routine- by motor vehicle when possible.
3. Inacessible areas and emergency- by helicopter.

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c. Med Evacs

1. Emergency- by helicopter.
2. Routine- by motor vehicle whenever possible.
3. Hostile and indigenous - by motor vehicle when possible, otherwise as directed by this unit.

d. Captured Material and Salvage:

1. In accordance with current directive.

e. Helicopter Support Team

1. Control helicopter resupply as directed by Battalion S-4.

▼ Command and Communications-Electronics

- a. No change to present operating procedures.
- b. Tactical Command Post will be with Company E.

J.M. CUMMINGS

Lieutenant Colonel U.S. Marine Corps

Commanding

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B

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HEADQUARTERS  
 2d Battalion, 26th Marines  
 3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
 FPO San Francisco 96602

Pawnee  
 III

3100  
 3/DEP/r1c  
 8 January 1967

2/26

29 OCT - 24 DEC 1966  
 JAPRT (OPN PAWNEE III)

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Attn: G-3)

Subj: Combat Operations After Action Report

Ref: (a) CG 3d MarDiv msg 271435Z Oct 66 Frag Order 424-66  
 (Operation Pawnee III)

(b) 2d Battalion 26th Marines Operation Order 7-66  
 (Operation Pawnee III)

(c) Maps: Vietnam 1:50,000AMS Series L701 Sheets 6559 I,  
 6560 II, and 6659 III

Encl: (1) TAOR Overlay

1. Code Name: Operation Pawnee III, Search and Destroy.
2. Dates of Operation: 290800H Oct 66 to 241200H Dec 66.
3. Location: Phu Loc District, Thua Thien Province.
4. Control Headquarters: 2d Bn (-) (Rein) 26th Marines

UNIT COMMANDERS

2d Bn. 26th Mar		Lt Col. J.M. CUMMINGS
H&S Company	29 Oct to 10 Dec 11 Dec	Capt. P. Morigeau Jr. Capt. W.A. Barry
Company "E"		Capt. J.R. Joy
Company "F"		Capt. J."A" Linneman
Company "G"	29 Oct to 4 Dec 5 Dec	Capt. A.P. Scambelluri Capt. S.E. Oots
Company "H"		Capt. W.E. Sykes, Jr.
Battery "B" 1st Bn. 12th Mar		Capt. M.G. O'Neill
3d Plt Company "B" 3d Recon Bn		1 Lt A.P. Pfeltz
3d Plt Company "B" 3d AT Bn		1 Lt D.R. Eagan

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5. Task Organization: 2d Battalion (-) (Rein) 26th Marines

2d Bn 26th Mar  
 H&S Co. (-)  
 Rifle Companies (3)

3d Plt Co "B", 3d Recon Bn

Det Co "B", 9th MT Bn

Det Co "A", 3d SP Bn (HST)

6. Supporting Forces:

## (a) Artillery Support

(1) Battery "B" 1st Battalion, 12th Marines was in direct support of the Battalion. Due to the extent of the TAOR, one platoon was located near the eastern end of the TAOR, and the rest of the battery located near the west central area, providing artillery support through the Battalion AO. Artillery response to fire missions was excellent; the only difficulty which existed at times was awaiting clearance for fires from Division FSCC. Harrassing and Interdicting fires were conducted at night, except during the last two weeks, when they were on a round the clock basis and provided excellent coverage.

(2) Two ARVN artillery platoons were located in the Battalion AO, one at Phu Loc District Headquarters and one at Mia Gia Pass at the eastern end of the TAOR, where the separate platoon of Battery "B" was also located. A liaison team from the Battalion S-3 was located at District Headquarters and obtained artillery support for the Battalion once during the initial phase of the operation. The only problem that was demonstrated at this time was the inadequacy of ARVN communications and their lack of experience in adjusting fires. The liaison team also coordinated ARVN fires within the AO.

## (b) Naval Gunfire

(1) Naval Gunfire was made available to the Battalion twice during the operation. On one occasion targets fired upon were suspected VC base camp and observation posts. An aerial observer was made available to adjust fire. Due to communications problems, cease fire due to helicopters and the aerial observer running out of fuel, only four out of ten missions were fired. On the other occasion Naval Gunfire was used to cover advancing troops during a Battalion sweep and was instrumental in suppressing the enemy ambushes.

## (c) Air Support

(1) Air support was provided by the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing and an Army AO unit (designation unknown) at Phu Bai. Helicopter support was performed by HMM 163 at Phu Bai with gunships supplied by VMO 1 and VMO 6.

(2) During the months of November and December HMM 163 responded to sixteen calls for MEDAVACs. All MEDEVACs were completed,

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several under extremely adverse weather conditions. During the same period HMM 163 flew ten recon insertions and ten extractions for 3d Plt, Company "B", 3d Recon Battalion who were attached to the Battalion. Three extractions were cancelled due to bad weather, the rest were completed.

(3) During the initial days of the operation 3d MarDiv DASC provided four flights of aircraft for use by the battalion. All aircraft were utilized. On 3 Nov 66 ten sorties were flown with 95% target coverage and 2 KBMA (Conf) plus 28 KBMA (Prob).

(4) Throughout the operation Army AOs from Phu Bai, assisted the battalion by recon flights of suspected enemy positions and spotting for artillery and Naval Gunfire. Their performance was excellent.

(5) During December the Battalion submitted numerous TPQ-10 targets. For the last two weeks of the operation 10-15 per day were requested. On 13 Dec 66 at 1900H a bomb load was dropped 1800 meters short, and hit a village at AU 824011 resulting in 5 civilians killed and 3 wounded. Cause is unknown.

(d) Ontos

(1) The 2d Plt, Company "B", 3d AT Battalion was provided in direct support of the battalion the last week of the operation. Due to flooded conditions and lack of road networks through the AO the utilization of the Ontos was extremely limited. Ontos were utilized primarily as additional fire support for the battalion and also as a mechanized reaction force for the battalion.

7. Intelligence. The source of the intelligence was G-2 (OB), 3rd MAR DIV on information summarized.

a. The following was anticipated prior to the operation:

(1) Estimate. One V.C. Main Force Company.

(2) Location. Phu Loc District, area centered by grid coordinate ZC 0402, ZD 0494, ZD 1194, Thua Thien Province border line to AT 8591, AT 8955, along coast to AU 8208, ZC 1607, ZC 1207, ZC 0402.

(3) Disposition. Cell, arrow, and company size units operating in Loc Thuy and Loc Tu village areas, and along MSR #1.

(4) Situation. Main Force Company expanding control of known V.C. operational area. (C. 118 Local Force Company in Phu Loc District.)

b. The following was found as operation was conducted:

(1) V.C. Strength. One Local Force Company with sapper element.

(2) V.C. Situation. Unknown.

(3) V.C. Units identified. None.

(4) Significant intelligence. None.

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~~DECLASSIFIED~~c. Terrain Features.

(1). Cover and Concealment. There was limited cover and concealment in low land areas along MSR #1 and beach areas. All mountainous areas provided an abundance of cover and concealment with thick vegetation from three feet to six feet in height and 30' to 60' trees.

(2). Obstacles. Lowland areas provided no obstacles but thick vegetation and mountains limited movement and vision.

(3). Critical Terrain Features. Song Bu Lu, Lang Co Bridge, Hills # 32, #212, # 348, "363, #258, # 68, and # 148 for movement, observation, and control.

(4). Avenues of Approach. Cau Dai, Dam Lap An, Song Bu Lu, a 11 beach areas, Bach Ma Road, Loc Tri Basin, Thuy Yen and Thuy Cam hamlets, Thuy Duong hamlet.

(5). Weather. Weather had no effect on the operations.

d. CA/Psy. War. A total of ten Med Caps and 3 leaflet deliveries were made in the TAOR.

8. Mission. Commencing 290800H Oct 66, 2nd Battalion (-) (Rein), 26th Marines, conducts search and destroy operations in assigned area to destroy enemy units, installations and influence and increase security of railroad and national route # 1 to prevent interdiction by enemy units. Coordinate ARVN/USMC efforts to assure integrity of lines of communications in operating areas.

9. Concept of Operation. 2nd Battalion, (-) (Rein), 26th Marines moves by motor march to the Phu Loc Area, established three (3) company TAOR's, Conducts search and destroy operations in conjunction with local district and sector forces in operating area. Extensive patrolling and ambushes will be conducted to deny enemy forces freedom of movement and to prevent interdiction of lines of communication. On order, conduct motorized patrols in support of scheduled Rough Rider convoys.

Rifle Companies established patrol bases, as indicated on enclosure (1) and Btry "B" established firing positions, one in the vicinity of the Battalion C.P. Due to the large TAOR, one platoon of Battery "B" was employed with a platoon of ARVN artillery at the forward position, (AT 832999).

A supply point was established in the vicinity of the Battalion C.P. The Det. Co. B, 9th MT Bn. was based at the supply point from which all resupply missions were conducted.

3d Plt. Co. "B" 3d Recon Bn. conducted patrols and ambushes in assigned areas to observe, engage, and/or capture the enemy whenever possible.

10. Execution. At 280830H Oct. 66, 3d Marine Division Frag Order 424-66 (Operation Pawnee III) was received at this headquarters. At 290800H Oct. 66, the first elements of the battalion departed for the operating area. All units established defensive positions and conducted local security. There were no significant incidents.

At 311250H Oct 66, an aerial observer reported ten to fifteen V.C. at coordinates AU 826040. An air strike was called and observed by the A/O which resulted in six enemy KIA (Prob).

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At 011635H Nov 66, a recon team observed 17 V.C. at Coordinates AU 825065 moving in a south western direction. An artillery fire mission was called which resulted in 12 VC KIA (Prob).

At 011745H 66, a recon team observed 10 V.C. at coordinates AU 819059 moving toward the south-east. An artillery fire mission was called which resulted in 10 V.C. KIA (Prob).

At 011830H Nov 66, a recon team observed two VC at coordinates AU 827073 moving toward the southeast. An Artillery fire mission was called which resulted in 2 VC KIA (Prob).

At 020915H Nov 66, a recon team observed 12 VC moving northeast and north. When first observed, the VC were wearing black pajamas, but changed into green uniforms while under observation. An artillery fire mission was called in which resulted in 5 VC KIA (Prob).

At 021105H Nov 66, a recon team observed 5 VC moving northeast at coordinates AU 823046. An artillery fire mission was called which resulted in 2 VC KIA (Conf).

At 021310, a recon team observed 3 VC moving toward the northwest at coordinates AU 824076. An artillery fire mission was called in which resulted in 3 VC KIA (Prob).

At 021645H Nov 66, a recon team observed 1 VC at coordinates AU 820060 moving northwest. An artillery fire mission was called in which resulted in 1 VC KIA (Prob).

At 021825H Nov 66, a recon team observed 6 VC at coordinates AU 823046. An artillery fire mission was called in which resulted in 1 VC KIA (Prob).

At 021840H Nov 66, a recon team observed 4 VC along the river at coordinates AU 825046. An artillery fire mission was called in which resulted in 1 VC KIA (Prob).

At 030635H Nov 66, a recon team observed 12 VC at coordinates AU 823649. An artillery fire mission was called in which resulted in 2 VC KIA (Conf).

At 030740H Nov 66, a recon team observed 10 VC at coordinates AU 823649 moving west in a boat on the river. An artillery fire mission was called in which resulted in 7 VC KIA (Conf).

A battalion search and destroy operation commenced at 03 0600H Nov 66. The concept of this operation was to have one company (-) conduct a sweep of the operational area; one company (-) and one platoon to take blocking positions with the Battalion Command Group to go with the blocking company initially.

At 030820H Nov 66 Company G received automatic small arms fire from coordinates ZD 201056. The company returned small arms fire from a range of approximately 75 meters which resulted in 1 VC KIA (Conf); one automatic weapon and some documents were captured and were delivered to the Battalion S-2.

At 031105H Nov 66 a platoon of Company H acting as a blocking force received approximately 50 rounds of small arms fire at coordinates AU 835043, a range of approximately 50 meters, which resulted in 1 USMC WIA. The small arms fire was returned with negative results. The USMC WIA was MedEvacred.

At 031120 Nov 66, Company H blocking force engaged 10 VC at coordinates AU 835043 resulting in 3 VC KIA (Conf).

At 031130 Nov 66 The FAC spotted 10 VC at coordinates AU 827057. An air strike was called which resulted in 2 VC KIA (Conf) and 5 VC KIA (Prob).

At 031215H Nov 66 Company H blocking force received heavy small arms fire at coordinates AU 835043. An air strike was called in which resulted in 7 VC KIA (Prob).

At 031230H Nov 66, an additional platoon was alerted and moved to the operating area thus giving the operation a total of three companies (-) and the Battalion Command Group.

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At 031815H Nov 66, Company H received 100 to 200 rounds of small arms fire from an unknown number of VC at coordinates AU 837041, at a range of approximately 100 meters. Results were 1 USMC KIA. The small arms fire was returned with the VC breaking contact and withdrawing in a northeasterly direction.

At 041740H Nov 66, Company E detonated one frag grenade mine resulting in 1 USMC WIA. WIA was MedEvacced.

At 041745H Nov 66 Company G made contact with approximately 10 VC at a range of approximately 75 meters. Small arms fire was exchanged and an artillery mission was called. Results of contact, 1 USMC WIA, and 4 VC KIA (conf).

From 5 Nov through 12 Nov 66, there were no significant contacts, although patrols and night ambushes were conducted daily.

At 131300H Nov 66, a Company G platoon and recon patrol it was assisting received sniper fire from the vicinity of ZC 153974 resulting in 1 ARVN KIA and 1 USMC WIA. The USMC WIA was medevacced and an artillery fire mission was called with negative results.

On 14 and 15 Nov 66, there were no significant events.

At 161120H Nov 66 Company G received small arms fire at ZC 159977 from approximately 3 VC at a range of approximately 50 meters, resulting in 1 USMC WIA. An artillery fire mission was called with negative results. At approximately 1430H Company G received more small arms fire. Small arms fire was returned which resulted in 1 VC KIA (conf), 1 VC WIA and 2 automatic weapons captured.

At 171220H Nov 66 Company G received small arms fire which resulted in 2 USMC WIA. USMC WIA's were medevacced.

At 181930H Nov 66 PF's from Phu Loc ambushed a VC squad at ZD002037 resulting in 2 VC KIA (conf) and 2 automatic weapons captured.

At 200050H Nov 66 Redon Co, 1st ARVN Div reported that an unknown number of VC delivered small arms fire at regional forces guarding a bridge at ZD 197011. Small arms fire was returned, the area was illuminated and the VC withdrew. ARVN Forces received 1 WIA.

At 211430H Nov 66 a Company E patrol shot and wounded 1 VC when he attempted to flee the patrol at AU 837035, the VC later died of wounds.

At 231250H Nov 66 Army AO reported two boats off loading supplies and VC Moving inland at AU 828069. The AO called an air strike which resulted in 2 boats being sunk. A platoon from Company E was helo-lifted to the area and found food, military equipment and medicine. There was no evidence of VC casualties. One other platoon from Company E was helo-lifted to the area and two platoons each from Company H and G and the Battalion Command group were helo-lifted to the area. Company E observed two VC enter a cave but were unable to extract them. The cave was blown and resulted in 2 VC KIA (prob).

A sweep of the peninsula from approximately the 06 grid line North was conducted with negative results. The sweep continued for 4 days and the area was thoroughly checked for caves and tunnels with 2 minor caves being found containing miscellaneous personal effects, food and a small number of Chicom grenades. Three coast guard Junk Fleet ships were stationed off the peninsula during this sweep, to prevent evacuation or reinforcing by sea. One supporting fire mission was requested and fired by this fleet.

At 301030H Nov 66 a recon team apprehended 2 VC suspects at ZC 117992.

At 011330H Dec 66 Company G apprehended nine VC suspects in the vicinity of ZC145996 and ZC152998, during a battalion size search and destroy operation. The suspects were delivered to Phu Loc District headquarters.

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At 031410H Dec66 Company H received heavy automatic weapons fire and approximately 12 rounds of 57 MM recoilless rifle from the high ground overlooking the company position in the vicinity of ZD059019. Heavy clouds hid the area from which the fire was received. Small arms fire was returned, 81 MM mortar fire and 106 MM recoilless rifle were delivered on the suspected enemy positions. The small arms fire continued sporadically for approximately fifteen minutes. An artillery fire mission was also called, two platoons of Company G and a command group under the battalion Executive Officer were dispatched for possible commitment. A reinforced platoon from Company H searched the area from which the fire was received, with negative contact, however a small amount of unfired and misfired 57 MM recoilless rifle ammunition, expended small arms cases and mortar cannisters were found. Company H sustained seven WIA as a result of the action, five of which were MEDEVACED. The remaining two were treated and returned to duty.

At 061750H Dec66 a patrol from Company G encountered six VC in the vicinity of ZC198987. The VC were engaged with small arms at a range of approximately 75 meters. One VC was seen to fall, however a search revealed no body.

At 081000H Dec66 Company G while searching for a suspected VC base camp in the vicinity of ZC119963, made contact with two VC at a range of approximately 20 meters. One VC was killed and the other wounded. One enemy carbine was captured.

At 081055H Dec66 during the search mentioned above Company G again made contact with four VC in the vicinity of ZC141972, at a range of approximately 75 meters. One VC was killed and one bolt action rifle was captured.

At 081220H Dec66 while continuing the search for the VC base camp Company G encountered approximately seven VC in the vicinity of ZC119954, at a range of approximately 50 meters, 1 VC KIA (conf) VC fled to the valley floor. An artillery fire mission was called with excellent coverage.

At 081055H Dec66 in the vicinity of ZD077014, Company H apprehended two VC suspects which were delivered to Phu Loc District Headquarters.

At 081258H Dec66 Company G received automatic small arms fire while checking the area after the artillery fire mission resulting in two USMC WIA which were Med Evaced after considerable difficulty due to the weather and the high and tightly woven canopy. One MedEvac later died as a result of a cardiac arrest.

At 090730H highway security patrol reported highway bridge at ZD099006 had been blown. Phu Loc District Headquarters indicated that the bridge was blown at approximately 0300. A span of 82 feet was blown.

On 101300H the battalion assumed opcon of Company F which had been opcon to 2d Bn, 9th Mar, and chopped Opcon of Company E to 2d Bn, 9th Mar.

On 11Dec66 units of the battalion moved to the following coordinates to furnish additional security for key bridges within the TAOR: AT887956, ZD198010, ZD153010, ZD099007, ZD038026 and ZD087007.

At 111115H Company G apprehended two VC suspects, delivered to Phu Loc District Headquarters.

At 111845H Dec66 in the vicinity of ZD187055, Company F apprehended two VC suspects. Suspects were delivered to Phu Loc District Headquarters.

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At 131900H Dec 66 Company F reported, and confirmed by "B" Battery forward, that a bomb from TPQ-10 drop had missed its target and landed in a village in the vicinity of AU 824001. A rifle platoon, the Battalion S-3, the Battalion Surgeon, and corpsmen were dispatched to the scene to investigate damages. A flare ship was assigned for illumination of the area during the search. Three civilians were Medevaced: one woman with a shrapnel wound in the shoulder, one child with a cheek laceration, and one woman with an apparent epileptic seizure. Two houses were completely destroyed, and an unknown number of chickens, ducks, and pigs were killed. Five civilians were killed. Solitium payments were made to victims and relatives of victims.

At 141505H Dec 66 a recon team encountered and killed two VC on a trail at coordinates ZC 059951.

At 151250H Dec 66 a recon team in the vicinity of ZC 206977 apprehended a VC deserter. At 1515H the recon team apprehended another VC suspect; both individuals were evacuated by helicopter to ITT.

160900H Dec 66 Company G apprehended one VC suspect. Suspect was delivered to Phu Loc District Headquarters.

At 172248H Dec 66 Company G squad ambush spotted two boats moving southwest at coordinates ZD 159027. The boats were taken under fire and illumination was requested and the area was searched. The two boats were sunk and three VC were killed (prob).

At 182122H Dec 66 Company F squad ambush at coordinates ZD 192002 encountered ten VC. Small arms fire was exchanged and four VC were seen to fall. Four VC killed (prob).

At 232030H Dec 66 Company G spotted lights on a river at coordinates 154014. A squad was dispatched and investigated and found a boat on the bank. Small arms fire was received and two VC were sighted. The small arms fire was returned. One VC fell into the water and floated past the squad. 1 VC killed (conf). The other VC was wounded and fled to the north, northwest.

At 241200H Dec 66 the operation was secured with no further contact.

II. Results.

a. Friendly losses: USMC 1 KIA, 19 WIA, ARVN 1 KIA, 1 WIA.

b. Enemy losses: 2 KBMA (conf), 28 KBMA (prob), 30 KBGF (conf), 32 KBGF (prob), 23 VCS, 1 VCC.

c. Weapons captured: individual weapons: 6, crew served: none.

d. All areas were searched following controlled air strikes. The areas were not searched after TPQ-10 strikes due to other commitments of the units at these times and the inaccessibility of the target areas.

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12. Administrative Matters. Administrative plans were adequate. The following comments in specific areas apply:

a. Supply. Unit distribution was utilized to the companies, resupplying them from a Battalion Supply Point established in the vicinity of the Battalion C.P. The Battalion supply point was supplied from the FLSO #2 through the Battalion Administrative Rear located at Phu Bai. A two day level of classes I, III, and V supplies was maintained in the Battalion and, because of the distance between units, at the company supply points, except when anticipated needs for a particular item were greater.

Resupply to the Battalion Supply Point was handled by trucks, M-35, attached to the Battalion for the operation. Two companies were located in areas not accessible by trucks. These companies were resupplied daily by helicopters. The two day level of supplies at these companies provided necessary rations when weather did not permit routine resupply by helicopter.

Resupply during extended operations away from the base camps required use of helicopters because of the lack of roads and negotiable terrain. During periods of inclement weather resupply by helicopter was not possible.

An HST was attached which handled the helicopter resupply at the Battalion Supply Point.

On two occasions, bridges were blown between the AO and Phu Bai. During the periods of reconstruction, necessary supplies were assembled in the administrative rear area, from where they were helo-lifted to the Battalion and company landing zones.

Combat loads of individuals consisted of T/O weapons, basic allowance of ammunition, body armor, helmet, and from one to four MCI's, depending on the particular operation. No difficulties were experienced.

b. Maintenance. Because transportation to the administrative rear was relatively easy and frequent, most of the maintenance effort was performed in the rear. One mechanic, one armorer, and several communication technicians were in the forward C.P.

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These personnel insured that proper preventative maintenance was performed on equipment and they performed limited 2d echelon maintenance. All equipment which had to be evacuated was evacuated through these personnel.

c. Treatment of casualties and evacuation and hospitalization. MEDEVACS were conducted with a minimum of difficulty, except on one occasion when, because of the high and thick canopy, considerable difficulty was encountered. Response to requests was excellent.

A Battalion Aid Station was established in the forward C.P. However, all casualties except very minor illnesses or injuries were evacuated to "A" Company, 3d Med Battalion or to the Battalion's Administrative Rear Aid Station.

d. Transportation. One platoon, minus, of Company "B", 3d MT Bn was attached to the Battalion for the operation. These trucks were utilized for tactical movements, resupply, and for necessary household requirements in the administrative rear. Transportation was adequate.

e. Communications. Radio relay support during the operation was outstanding and exceeded 95 per cent dependability. Even during the latter part of the operation, when frequent generator problems arose, it was excellent.

During the early stages of the operation, the TAR net operated by DASC was very unsatisfactory. It was necessary on numerous occasions to call by phone to establish contact by radio. This resulted in much lost time in requesting support for MEDEVACS and air support. At times it was so poor that it was necessary to call by phone to keep them on the air to complete a mission. The operation of this net was brought to the attention of the Division Comm-Elect Officer on at least three occasions and during the final weeks of the operation, these problems did clear up and communications were satisfactory.

The radio set AN/PRC-25 continued to be extremely dependable under the most adverse weather conditions. The only problem occurred with the set was a breakdown of mike elements in handset H-138.

f. Medical Evaluation. Operation Pawnee III did not present any new medical problems. The most common problems were maceration and immersion foot. The most serious cases were evacuated to the administrative rear aid station where two seventeen bed wards were established to specifically treat these disorders. Patients were returned to duty after seven to fourteen days, depending on the severity of the case.

A secondary problem was that of pyoderma, secondary to scratches and insect bites. In most cases local cleansing and cicitracin ointment did effect a cure. Because of this, the use of Bicillin was started which was found to give very good results.

The MedCap program was moderately successful, but was hampered by the almost complete lack of medical supplies.

13. Special Equipment and Techniques. No comments.

14. Commanders Evaluation: 2d Bn, 26th Mar, fulfilled the basic mission of Operation Pawnee III which was destroying enemy units and installations, influence and increase security of the railroad and NR #1 and prevent interdiction by the enemy units. As the operation progressed it became evident that more emphasis had to be placed on LOC security at the expense of aggressively seeking and routing out the enemy in his base camps. At first Phu Loc District forces were responsible for immediate security for bridges and the railroad. U.S. Forces were placed in positions where they could add influence to the LOC security but were largely concerned with conducting wide search and destroy patrols. However, district forces did not fulfill their protective role adequately and two main highway bridges were destroyed, one 200 meters from District Headquarters while PFs were guarding it. As a result of this particular incident, 2/26 was ordered to place reinforced platoons in the vicinity of the key bridges in the TAOR. This relocation completely eliminated the battalion's capability to seek out and destroy the enemy in his camps.

The battalion conducted the operation with only three of its four rifle companies, which also hampered its offensive capabilities. The TAOR was so large that it was difficult to mass forces without sacrificing security throughout the other parts of the TAOR and denying the battalion any sizable reaction force. The battalion received numerous reports of sighting of sizable enemy units in southern areas of the TAOR but the battalion was unable to exploit these reports due to the emphasis on LOC security. All in all it is felt the battalion accomplished its mission but more tangible results would have resulted had the battalion had more freedom of movement.

15. Recommendations:

- a. It is believed that there is still a sizable enemy force operating within the Pawnee III operating area. Further battalion sized operations in the area are recommended.
- b. That any battalion going into the area should be a full four company battalion.
- c. That if feasible LOC security be left to Vietnamese forces, and that action be taken to recommend an increase in the RF/PF forces in the Phu Loc District. There are too many vulnerable places along the highway and railroad for the current size of the district forces.
- d. That following the monsoon, offensive operations be conducted in the southern mountain areas of the Pawnee III operating area to rout the enemy from his base camps.
- e. That MedEvac helicopters operating in heavily canopied areas be equipped with a fifty or sixty foot hoist cable, instead of a thirty foot cable.
- f. That all MedEvac helicopters carry a basket.

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